

Nation

Volume 4, No. 2
December 20, 1996



'Tis the Season...
Christmas Issue



Also Inside:

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Jeep



by William Nicholls



PHOTO BY LOUISE DANDURAND

Erland "Mr. Entertainment" Campbell. Singer. Actor. Composer. Boulevardier. Dancer. Raconteur. Visionary. Rebel... Coming to a theatre near you.

It is almost 1997 and I have yet to convince **Two-Chord Erland Campbell** of Hurlin' Erland and the Technicians (**HEATT**) to change the name of his group to Erland and the Technicians (**EATT**). I believe this will catapult the group to unparalleled heights of fame and power in the entertainment world.

Cree Manitoban Campbell will be making his silver screen debut in an **Albert Nerenberg** movie now filming called "Monster." No, he is not in the title role. Although judging from the above photo, he would make a terrific monster. Campbell plays a "Native visionary" who gets killed off at the beginning of the movie. His only line is the ominous, "It is coming." "I set the tone for the movie," said Erland. Also appearing in the film is Mohawk Chief **Billy I-Can't-Remember-How-Many-Rivers** of Kahnawake and **Ernest** and **Gary Webb** of Chisasibi. (The Baldwins of the North.) The brothers play computer hackers who, "jack into the Pentagon stratospheric interface, realign the parameters, creating an analog force field." Whuh?

Campbell will be releasing his debut album sometime in '97. We hope. Because of our readers' love of contests, we are proud to announce a Win-A-Date-With-Erland-Contest. The lucky female (or male) will get a chance to know Erland better on a night out in Montreal at a fancy restaurant (keep in mind, Erland's idea of a fancy resto is McDonald's), a movie and whatever else is her/his pleasure. To reach the International Erland Campbell Fan Club, write to ECFC, care of Beesum Communications. The address is on our masthead.

While we're on the subject of contests, the contest for photos of you with celebrities, infamous and famous, still stands. Send those photos in and win a great prize.

OUR SPIES IN one of the communities that starts with the letter "W" saw the Chief making off with many copies of *The Nation* from the local store. And there weren't even any stories on him in that issue. Strange behaviour from our so-called leaders.

THE ANNOUNCER at the opening ceremonies at the Val d'Or tournament committed a gross faux pas when he introduced Matthew Coon Come as "Matthew Come Coon."

HO, HO, HO. They busted our friend **Santa Claus** for possession of 14 grams of marijuana in Rio De Janeiro recently. Someone in the office asked, "What's he doin' down there? He's supposed to be at the North Pole."

THIS JUST IN off the phone. The Cree School Board Post Secondary office here in town are packing up their belongings as I write this. They are on their way to the much-hated Lamborghini building in the crime-ridden neighbourhood bordering Old Montreal. Once again, the powers that be have it their way.

ON A FINAL NOTE, *The Nation* calendars are now available in Montreal at the Studio 3D Clic, Alexis Nihon Plaza, metro level. Buy as many as you can. Merry Christmas!!!



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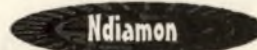
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PAYABLE TO BEESUM COMMUNICATIONS



Letter sent to Gerald MacDonald, president of the Bantam CC Hockey League, Malartic, Qc.:

I am writing to you at this time with a great sense of outrage and frustration over an incident which occurred in a game between Chibougamau and Val d'Or teams during the recent hockey tournament held in Val d'Or. I have very grave concerns about the consequences of this incident unless there are specific measures taken to deal with the situation.

It has been reported to me that after a win by the Chibougamau team the coach of the Val d'Or team, Mr. Yvanohé Bélisle, became quite irate and took his frustrations out on the aboriginal players of the Chibougamau team. He was verbally abusive and hurled unacceptable racist slurs of the worst kind at these players. He apparently continued this behaviour without being restrained and without consequence.

I am utterly shocked that there have been no disciplinary measures taken against Mr. Bélisle. The consequences of allowing this type of behaviour to go unchecked are enormous. On the personal level, our boys who were the target of Mr. Bélisle's racist venom will be reluctant to ever again par-

ticipate in a hockey game in Val d'Or where they may be singled out for abuse. This would be very sad for them. On a larger level, what does this say about our region? Does it say that it's all right to shout racist insults at other people in public since no one will do anything about it? Does it say that the region considers there to be first-class and second-class citizens, and that it is acceptable to insult and demean the second-class? Does it say that the region promotes, or at least permits, intelligent hatred? I believe that there needs to be a clear message sent by the league that this type of behaviour is not tolerated by the league. We do not need any more things in our region which are points of conflict. Sports events should be an opportunity for people in our region to get to know one another in a friendly spirit of competition. They should foster friendship, not hostility.

As a former hockey player myself I was taught that hockey is very much about discipline. When a player behaves in a way which exceeds the rules he is disciplined. The discipline is there not only for the safety of all the players, but also because the future of the game requires everyone to abide by the rules. If rules were not enforced,

and discipline not imposed, there would simply be chaos and there would be no hockey.

In the same spirit I must therefore insist that Mr. Bélisle be disciplined by the league for his offensive and unacceptable behaviour. Minimally, Mr. Bélisle should be required to issue a public apology to the boys who were the target of his attacks. Additionally, Mr. Bélisle should either be dismissed as a coach or be suspended for a prescribed period of time. I consider these measures to be minimal and not at all severe in view of the behaviour in question.

If such remedial actions are not taken by the league immediately we will have no other recourse than to address the matter to the Quebec Human Rights Commission. We would also explore the legal recourses which would be available to us. Without this issue being addressed by the league I would also use my office of Chief to urge the other Cree Chiefs to consider other venues as an alternative to Val d'Or for our annual tournament.

I trust that you will appreciate the seriousness of this issue and that you will govern yourself accordingly.

Abel Bosum, Chief

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**Wishing everyone
prosperity & happiness.
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with dear friends and family.**

Nation

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RACIST SLURS GREET CREE YOUTH IN VAL D'OR

Val d'Or hockey coach Yvanohé Bélisle should be disciplined and issue a public apology for screaming racist insults at young Cree hockey players after a recent game in Val d'Or, says Chief Abel Bosum.

Bélisle was irate because his Bantam CC team had just suffered its first loss of the season to a team from Chibougamau-Chapais, which included four Crees aged 14 and 15.

According to an account in the *Sentinel* newspaper, he stormed over to the Chibougamau squad and started yelling at them: "Les christ de Cawich... Je vais aller m'en chercher des joueurs AA et on va les débâter les ostis de Cawich." (Translation: "F***ing savages... I'm going to go find some AA players and we will destroy the f***ing savages...")

Bélisle has yet to be disciplined by the Bantam CC Hockey League, said Chief Bosum, the father of one of the boys present. He wrote a letter to Gerald MacDonald, president of the Bantam CC Hockey League, demanding action. If the league doesn't suspend or fire Bélisle, the chief threatened to contact the Quebec Human Rights Commission and explore legal action.

Bosum also says Cree chiefs may consider moving the annual December hockey tournament out of Val d'Or.

"I am writing to you at this time with a great sense of outrage and frustration," Bosum's letter begins (see Letters, p. 6). "I believe that there needs to be a clear message sent by the league that this type of behaviour is not tolerated by the league."

Jerry Poirier, manager of the Chibougamau team, said he will also file a complaint with the league. The coach of Chibougamau's team, Daniel Ménard, couldn't believe his ears when he heard the insults. "In all this, we shouldn't forget that these statements were addressed to youths of 14 and 15 years. I understand that for him the provincial final is important but I believe that as a volunteer we must respect the youth who come out to skate," he said in a *Sentinel* article.

—Alex Roslin

TROILUS MINE GETS GOOD REPORT CARD

Cooperation between Crees and development companies is possible.

This is the message that the Mistissini First Nation and the Inmet mining company are sending out two years after signing an agreement to open the Troilus copper-silver-gold mine on October 13, 1994.

The company entered into negotiations with Mistissini despite protests from mining and forestry companies and the Quebec government under Parizeau's administration. They opposed the negotiations because of the precedent they would set on involving First Nations in resource development.

Two years later, Sam Etapp, an advisor to the Mistissini First Nation, says the community is pleased that Inmet agreed to enter into a formal agreement with the community.

The Mistissini Crees looked at the impacts from a social and environmental viewpoint, and sat down to negotiate.

Etapp says that even though both parties were from different cultures, they were able to sit down and work something out.

He is quick to point out that this agreement was specific to this project, and might not work for different peoples and companies with different needs.

"I think agreements need to be flexible. It should not be assumed that each community has the same needs and interests," said Etapp.

The results of the negotiations are seen and felt today by the Crees. Out of a workforce of 203 employees at Troilus, 51 are Crees and a total

of \$15 million has been awarded to Cree companies and joint ventures involving Crees.

Etapp says that in most cases goals have been exceeded. He also suggests that students in post-secondary or planning studies should look to positions within organizations like Inmet.

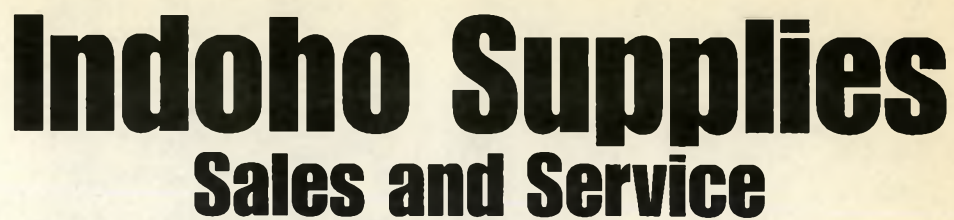
"Not everyone can trap, hunt or work for a Cree organization or company. We have to look at other ways that Crees can enter a wage economy. We have to look at the opportunities and ways to get the doors open. This is the message and interest we have to pass on to the students," said Etapp.

He added that Inmet is also active with the Mistissini community in promoting new employment opportunities for residents.

When asked if this is the future for Crees, Etapp said each of the nine Cree communities have to study their own needs. Mistissini can't dictate what the other communities' needs are. Each one will have to define them and work for achieving them with their own people. Mistissini, though, is pleased with the results and with Inmet's actions in Eeyou Ashtchee, he said.

"This proves what we have been saying all along," Etapp added. "The Crees have never been against development. We proved this in Mistissini. We have shown that we support it when development is undertaken in an environmentally and socially responsible manner. When Cree rights and interests are respected and recognized as well as when our people benefit, the Crees will support development."

by William Nicholls

**fax: 819-855-2711**

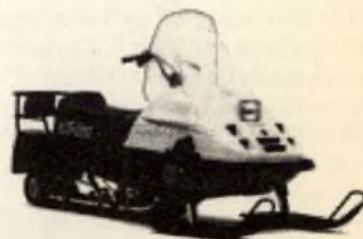
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CANADA IMPORTS U.S. NUCLEAR WASTE

Canada has agreed to dispose a small quantity of highly radioactive plutonium from dismantled U.S. nuclear weapons.

A small amount of plutonium will be sent to a nuclear facility in Chalk River, Ont. to be burned in an experimental procedure.

The U.S. is eager to find storage for massive quantities of nuclear waste for which there are presently no long-term dump sites. For years, Canada has been quietly concocting a plan to import the waste from the U.S. and bury it deep in the Canadian Shield in the North.

The U.S. is in a bind because American towns don't want the waste anywhere nearby. But Canadian governments appear to be greeting it with open arms.

"We need to understand if there is the capability existing nearby and we can overcome the institutional barriers both in Canada and the United States that might permit the movement of plutonium across borders," said the U.S. Energy Secretary, Hazel O'Leary.

FIRST NATIONS BANK LAUNCHED

An august body of dignitaries assembled to launch the First Nations Bank of Canada in Toronto earlier this month.

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come and other First Nations leaders and bank officials were on hand at the ceremony. The bank hopes Native people across the country will hold shares, with the First Nations Bank the engine behind a revived, independent Native economy.

The Saskatoon-based bank also hopes to draw an estimated \$1 billion in land-claim settlements into its coffers.

The bank is backed by \$10 million from Saskatchewan First Nations and the Toronto Dominion Bank. At first, it will operate as a TD Bank subsidiary, but most profits will go to Native shareholders, to be reinvested in the bank. TD will ultimately give up its ownership.

Branches will open across the country, and in the meantime anyone who wants to open a First Nations Bank account, acquire its Visa card or take out a loan can do so by visiting a TD branch.



NEW ERA PROMISED FOR NATIVE PEOPLE

Georges Erasmus has devoted the last six years of his life to the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples. But he understands why some Natives are skeptical about yet another commission that promises the world but delivers nothing.

"They have good reason to be skeptical. Aboriginal people's hopes have been risen for a long time," said Erasmus, co-chair of the Royal Commission.

"Some of these issues have been around for hundreds of years, since early contact, since the creation of Canada."

But Erasmus said he believes the Canadian government is giving serious consideration to the Royal Commission's long-awaited five-volume report.

"It's going to take a while. These things take time. But the closer people look, the better it looks," he told *The Nation*.

"I think they (the government) are open to debate. It's early, very early. I don't think it does anybody any justice to cut off the debate," said Erasmus, a former National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations.

After the Royal Commission released its report, Indian Affairs Ron Irwin called it unrealistic. He brushed off its call for billions in new spending on First Nations needs and the 440 recommendations for changes.

But Erasmus remains optimistic. He said that those who were skeptical when the report was first released are now coming around as they've actually started reading through the massive report.

"It was a great learning experience," he said of the six years of hearings. "The report is fundamental to the country."

Viola Robinson, one of the five Royal Commission members, agreed.

"I think it's one of the major things that has happened to aboriginal people in this country," said Robinson, a former president of the Native Council of Canada.

"I just can't see why the government wouldn't look at the report seriously. It's so important. It means a whole new era for aboriginal people, going away from the status quo and doing it right this time."

Robinson said she was "disappointed" by Irwin's initial reaction, but pleased that the report has been so favourably received by First Nations people.

"I thought that was very, very important. If it was going to go anywhere, it would have to have support from aboriginal people themselves."

She said there are numerous quick changes that can be made easily if the government is serious about improving relations with First Nations. "Certainly there's a lot of room to begin."

On the other hand, Robinson said Irwin would be wise to shelve amendments to the Indian Act which are now before the House of Commons. She said First Nations have stated clearly they are against the amendments and that they haven't been properly consulted.

Instead, said Robinson, the government would be better off using the Royal Commission report if it's looking for ways to improve life for Native people, she said.

For details of the Royal Commission report, please turn to page xx of this issue.

—Alex Roslin

OUR GRANDFATHER BOBBISH

Told by Nancy Rupert

I remember our grandfather. We loved him very much - our grandfather named Bobbish, George Bobbish's father. We came from the houses and unboarded at Kaaubishchuukaashii. It was already the fall season and the berries were already ripe. That was where our grandfather, Bobbish, was. The Kaaubishchuukaashii people really caught many fish with nets and we were really given fish.

That morning, our mother told us to go and pick berries so that she could make Shikumin (Flaked Fish & Berries) with the fish that was left over. It was very windy and chilly. I went with my older sister. We were picking berries. There was a cluster of willows standing over there. We were very cold because it was very chilly. We went to where the willows were. There was someone peering out of there. I said to my older sister, "I seem to think that person who is peering out is our grandfather Bobbish." She said, "Maybe it is truly him. Let's go to him."

We approached him. He said to us, "Waasaa, you must be cold." "Of course, we're cold," we said to him. He said to us, "How come you are picking berries for so long." He, then, said, "I will make a fire so you can warm up and go home after you have warmed up." That was what we did. He said, "Gather some things." We gathered some willow sticks. There wasn't an abundance of firewood and hardly any washed ashore. We only gathered the little willow sticks and the ones laying flat.

He prepared where he would make a fire. He didn't use matches in making a fire. He made the fire the way it was done long ago. He looked inside his canvas bag. He took out a shot bag. It was very black. He took out dry softened grass that he had bundled this way. Then he took out a metal. It seemed like it was concave. The stone seemed to look like flint. The stone he used wasn't a white stone. It was black. He put the grass where he would make a fire. He simply hit the stone using the piece of metal. It sparked just like what happens in a fire. That's what happened. The grass was ablaze. He immediately made the fire big.

He was the only one I saw not using matches - our grandfather Bobbish. We loved him very much. He apparently kept bannock made by his old woman. That was because he fed bannock to the one who threw out his pee pot. That was probably because he was paying them. We used to fight to take out his pee pot. It was because of the bannock he fed to the one who dumped his pee pot. His old lady really kept things for a long time. That old lady probably kept



things including white man things. When he wanted someone to do an errand for him, he gave them candy which he probably kept for a long time.

That was what I wanted to talk about. He used to make a fire without using matches. That was who I saw using that. I didn't see another using that. He was probably happy using that to make a fire. In the winter, it was said that he used that when hunting. The only thing I saw that he used to make a fire was that softened grass that was in his shot bag. That was probably where he always kept the things he used to make a fire. He immediately made the fire big to warm us up. We went home after we had warmed up. That was who I wanted to talk about - our grandfather Bobbish. We loved him very much. I guess that was because we expected him to feed us bannock.



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a Merry Christmas
and a joyous New Year!

Let's make the most of 1997!

**From
the staff at
Nemaska General Store
manager: Peter Wapachee**

PHONE: 819-673-2525

After three issues of speaking about spousal abuse, I am proud to say we received a letter from a male who knows how women should be treated. Thank you Ronnie Otter for your letter and your courage in teaching other men.

Marilyn Bearskin Herodier



ERNEST WEBB

Kates with Kuukuum

A LETTER TO THE NATION

I have been reading *The Nation* for a long time about women being abused. To the men out there: What is the worst pain a woman endures during her life time? A slap in the face...a kick in the ribs...No. That's no pain. What is the worst pain a woman can endure...child birth. I'm not saying you can beat her more. No. You made your vows and promise. To love and protect her.

You drew blood from a woman when you were born, you should not draw blood from your hands. Your hands are for providing, and for holding, loving your wife, children and grandchildren.

Have you ever seen a child being born? I have. You should see the pain that she endures, the screaming, the sweat, running down her face, the tears in her eyes. When the baby is delivered... THAT IS PAIN. Maybe you will have tears in your eyes.

You should try it. You are going to love her more and your children.

And if you hurt your wife with your hands, and if you say how sorry you are, no matter how many times you say it, every day, you can not erase it. Not that kind of pain. That pain will never go away.

To all *The Nation* readers, nine Cree communities, spend time with your family, loved ones this Christmas. Try to stay sober. Don't drink and drive and have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Ronnie Otter
Ou..Daa General Store
Waswanipi, Quebec

This issue is dedicated to all men and to all children and to Mr. Ronnie Otter's wife, who is fortunate to have a husband who knows the meaning of respect. MB

NOTE: When we received this special letter, we decided to postpone the poll we were going to put in this issue. Look for the poll in the new year.



*We, the Staff of
Wabannutao Eeyou
Telecommunication Association
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**Thomas Jolly, New President
Ernest Webb, Vice-President
of**

**JAMES BAY CREE
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The Cree Nation of Eastmain

*would like to wish
all the Cree communities
a safe & happy
New Year!*

*Best wishes for 1997
from the Chief, council
and staff of
the Cree Nation
of Eastmain.*



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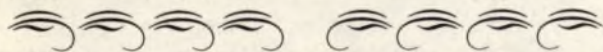
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**The Chief,
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to wish all
the Cree
communities
a happy
and prosperous
New Year!**

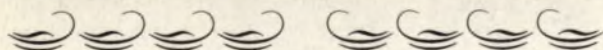
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**would like to extend our best wishes
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to all the Cree First Nations.**

**We hope everyone
will enjoy
a happy and healthy New Year!**



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**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
to all from the Chief and Council
of the Nemaska First Nation**

This past year has been a celebration
of children and of childhood, here in Nemaska.
We have heard the laughter, learned the value
of play and supported our children in their growth.
Even though this special year has come to an end,
our commitment to these
most valuable young people continues.



1996 Year of the Child in Nemiscau

CHRISTMAS

A Season to remember

COMPILED AND EDITED BY WILL NICHOLLS

WITH FILES FROM THE INTERNET

Xmas Origins

Christmas was once a moveable feast celebrated many different times during the year. The choice of December 25 was made by the Pope Julius I in the fourth century AD because this coincided with the pagan rituals of Winter Solstice, or Return of the Sun. The intent was to replace the pagan celebration with the Christian one.

CHRISTMAS IN GERMANY

We can trace some of the holiday lore and traditions to Germany. In no other country is Christmas more elaborately and universally celebrated. The Christmas season officially begins with the start of Advent, four Sundays before Christmas Day. The tradition of the Advent wreath, a circle of greenery in which four candles are set, originated with the German Lutherans. One candle is lit the first Sunday of Advent, two are lit the second Sunday, and so on until the fourth Sunday. A large white candle in the center is lit on Christmas Day. The Advent calendar, an elaborate calendar with windows used to count down the days until Christmas, also originated in Germany.

The Christmas Tree owes its widespread popularity to Germany. In the Middle Ages the Germans would put on a mystery play each December 24th, the feast day of Adam and Eve. The plays featured a decorated evergreen which represented the Tree of Life from which Adam and Eve ate and as a result were banished from the Garden of Eden. Over the centuries these plays and festivities strayed from their religious origins and the Church ceased to sponsor them. But the people continued to set up and decorate a tree in their home every year at Christmas. In 1880 glassmakers in Thuringia discovered how to make blown glass balls and bells, which became the decorations used to trim Christmas trees all over the world.

In many German cities special festive markets with decorated booths and stalls are set up for weeks before Christmas. The most famous of these is the Christmas Market in Nuremberg which has a history of more than 400 years and is attended by people from many countries. The festival lasts three weeks, from early December until Christmas.

St. Nicholas has traditionally brought gifts to German children on the eve of his feast day, December 6. He traveled with a dark-faced companion, often a frightening figure, known variously as Krampus, Pelzebock, Pelznickel, Hans Muff, Bartel, or Gumpinkel. After the Reformation, authorities frowned upon the idea of having a character representing the bishop/saint distributing gifts. As a result St. Nick became Santa Claus, complete with long white beard, red suit and sleigh. St. Nick is known by various names in different regions of Germany including Klaasbuur, Burklaas, Rauklas, Bullerklaas and Sunnercla. In eastern Germany, where the Santa



figure remains more connected with his pagan past, he is called Ash Man, Shaggy Goat, or Rider. Today, he is increasingly known as Father Christmas throughout Germany and appears not on St. Nicholas Day Eve, but on Christmas Eve.

In Germany, as in many European countries, the highpoint of the Christmas season is Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve. A midnight service is celebrated by both Catholics and Protestants.

CHRISTMAS IN THE BRITISH ISLES

Many of our North American ideals about the way Christmas ought to derive from the English Victorian Christmas, such as that described in Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. The caroling, the gifts, the feast and the wishing of good cheer to all - these ingredients came together to create that special Christmas atmosphere.

The custom of gift-giving on Christmas dates only to Victorian times. Before then it was more common to exchange gifts on New Year's Day or Twelfth Night. Santa Claus is known by British children as Father Christmas. Father Christmas, these days, is quite similar to the American Santa, but his direct ancestor is a certain pagan spirit who regularly appeared in medieval plays. The old-fashioned Father Christmas was depicted wearing long robes with sprigs of holly in his long white hair. Children write letters to Father Christmas detailing their requests, but instead of dropping them in the mailbox, the letters are tossed into the fireplace. The draft carries the letters up the chimney, and theoretically, Father

continued on page 16



Christmas reads the smoke. Gifts are opened Christmas afternoon.

From the English we get a story to explain the custom of hanging stockings from the mantelpiece. Father Christmas once dropped some gold coins while coming down the chimney. The coins would have fallen through the ash grate and been lost if they hadn't landed in a stocking that had been hung out to dry. Since that time children have continued to hang out stockings in hopes of finding them filled with gifts.

The custom of singing carols at Christmas is also of English origin. During the Middle Ages, groups of singers called "waits" would travel around from house to house singing ancient carols and spreading the holiday spirit. The word "carol" means "song of joy." Most of the popular old carols we sing today were written in the nineteenth century.

The hanging of greens, such as holly and ivy, is a British winter tradition with origins far before the Christian era. Greenery was probably used to lift sagging winter spirits and remind the people that spring was not far away. The custom of kissing under the mistletoe is descended from ancient Druid rites. The decorating of Christmas trees, though primarily a German custom, has been widely popular in England since 1841 when Prince Albert had a Christmas tree set up in Windsor Castle for his wife Queen Victoria, and their children.

For many years in England, a roasted boar's head has been associated with Holiday feasting. The custom probably goes back to the Norse practice of sacrificing a boar at Yuletide in honor of the god Freyr. One story tells of a student at Oxford's Queen College who was attacked on Christmas Day by a wild boar. All he had in his hand to use as a weapon was his copy of Aristotle, so he shoved the book down the boar's throat. Wanting to retrieve his book, the student cut off the animal's head and brought it back to the college where it was served for Christmas dinner with much pomp and ceremony.

The celebration of Boxing Day, which takes place on December 26 - the feast of St. Stephen - is a part of the holiday season unique to Great Britain. Traditionally, it is on this day that the alms box at every English church is opened and the contents are distributed to the poor. Also, this is the day that servants traditionally got the day off to celebrate with their families. It became traditional for working people to break open their tip boxes on this day. Boxing Day began in the mid-nineteenth century when the custom of tipping by rich persons to persons in service positions had apparently gotten out of hand. Soon the streets at Christmastime were full of aggressive people soliciting of tips. To contain the nuisance, "Boxing Day" was designated as the one day for giving to the less fortunate.

MEXICO

Several weeks before Christmas, elaborately decorated market stalls or puestos are set up in the plazas of every town and city. The puestos offer crafts of every conceivable kind, foods such as cheese, bananas, nuts, and cookies, and flowers such as orchids and poinsettias.

The poinsettia is native to Mexico and is believed to have first been used in connection with Christmas in the 17th century when Mexican Franciscans included the flowers in their Christmas celebration. There is a legend connected with the flower. A little boy named Pablo was walking to the church in his village to visit the Nativity scene, when he realized he had nothing to offer the Christ Child. He saw some green branches growing along the roadside and gathered them up. Other children scoffed, but when he laid them by the manger, a brilliant red star-shaped flower appeared on each branch.

The main Christmas celebration in Mexico is called las posadas, which refers to processions reenacting Joseph and Mary's search for a place to stay in Bethlehem. The processions begin nine days before Christmas because the original journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem took nine days. Friends and family members divide themselves into two groups - pilgrims and innkeepers. The pilgrims travel from house to house asking for a shelter and are refused at each until they finally reach the house where an alter and Nativity scene have been set up. Here the pilgrims are admitted with great rejoicing, a traditional prayer is spoken, and the party begins. Food and drink are served and then children take turns trying to break open the pinata.

BETHLEHEM

The little town where Jesus is said to have been born is the site of the Church of the Nativity, which is ablaze with flags and decorations every Christmas. On Christmas Eve natives and visitors alike crowd the church's doorways and stand on the roof to watch for the dramatic annual procession. Galloping horsemen and police mounted on Arabian horses lead the parade. They are followed by solitary horseman carrying a cross and sitting astride a coal-black steed. Then come the churchmen and government officials. The procession solemnly enters the doors and places an ancient effigy of the Holy Child in the church. Deep winding stairs lead to a grotto where visitors find a silver star marking the site of the birth of Jesus.

Christian homes in Bethlehem are marked by a cross painted over the door and each home displays a homemade manger scene. A star is set up on a pole in the village square.

IRAN

Iran, formerly Persia, is the land where the Three Wise men are believed to have lived when Jesus was born. Today Christians in Iran begin fasting from animal products on December 1. This is called "Little Fast."

"Big Fast" occurs during Lent, the six weeks preceding Easter. After Church service of December 25 they enjoy Christmas dinner which they call "Little Feast." A traditional dish is a chicken stew called harasa. Gifts are generally not exchanged but children get new clothes which they wear proudly on Christmas Day.



Recipes

GINGERBREAD MEN AND WOMEN

- 1 cup shortening
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 cup molasses
- 2 Tbsp. vinegar
- 5 cups sifted all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 2 to 3 tsp. ground ginger
- 1 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp. ground cloves

Cream shortening and sugar. Beat in egg, molasses, and vinegar. Sift together dry ingredients and blend into creamed mixture. Chill 3 hours.

Roll dough on lightly floured surface to 1/8 inch thick. Cut in shapes.

Place 1 inch apart on cookie sheet. Bake at 375F for 5 to 6 minutes.

Cool slightly on cookie sheet and then remove to rack.

Makes about 5 dozen.

ELVES' FUDGE

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 can (14 oz) evaporated milk
- 4 1/2 cups sugar
- 1 (7 oz) jar marshmallow cream
- 1 (13 oz) grated sweet chocolate bar
- 1 (12 oz) pkg chocolate chips
- 2 tsp vanilla
- 2 cups chopped walnuts
- 4 1/2 cups sugar

Preparation

Combine butter, sugar & milk. Boil 5 minutes; remove from heat & add remaining ingredients except nuts. Mix well and add nuts. Spoon into buttered 9" x 13" & 8" x 8" pans. Cool and cut; makes 5 pounds.

CHRISTMAS WREATH COOKIES

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup butter
- 3 cups miniature marshmallows
- 1/2 tsp almond extract
- 1/2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 tsp green food color
- 4 cups corn flakes

Preparation

Melt butter, add marshmallows. When the mixture is smooth, add almond and vanilla extracts, coloring and cereal. Make into wreath shapes, decorate with red cinnamon candies and candy silver balls.



EGGNOG

Eggnog has long been associated with friends, family and good times during the Christmas and New Years Eve celebrations.

Homemade eggnog is easy to make.

- 6 eggs
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 3 cups milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1 cup heavy cream, whipped

In a large pan, beat eggs, sugar and salt. Stir in milk. Cook over low heat, stirring constantly, until mixture is thick enough to coat a metal spoon, about 15 minutes. Thermometer should register 160 degrees. Remove from heat. Stir in vanilla and nutmeg. Cover and refrigerate until thoroughly chilled, several hours or overnight. Just before serving, beat heavy cream until soft peaks form. With wire whisk, gently fold whipped cream into custard mixture. Enjoy!

Other Eggnog tips

— Eggnog can be frozen in its original carton. Thaw at least 24 hours in the refrigerator before using.

— Substitute eggnog for liquid portion in pancakes, waffles, French toast and crepes.

— Use eggnog as a liquid ingredient in a glaze for breads, cakes and cookies, or for a gelatin-base dessert souffle.

— To add sparkle to eggnog, mix equal portions of eggnog with carbonated mixers.

— Serve eggnog warm with a cinnamon stick in each cup or flavored with liqueur.

Government Christmas Carol Quiz

The following Christmas carols were written by government officials. Can you guess the original titles? Answers next page.

1. Move Hither The Entire Assembly Of Those Who Are Loyal In Their Belief
2. Embellish Interior Passageways
3. Vertically Challenged Adolescent Percussionist
4. First Person Singular Experiencing An Hallucinatory Phenomenon Of A Natal Celebration Devoid Of Color
5. Soundless Nocturnal Period
6. Majestic Triplet Referred To In The First Person Plural
7. The Yuletide Occurance Preceding All Others
8. Precious Metal Musical Devices
9. Omnipotent Supreme Being Elicit Respite To Ecstatic Distinguished Males
10. Caribou With Vermillion Olfactory Appendage
11. Allow Crystalline Formations To Descend
12. Jovial Yuletide Desired For The Second Person Singular Or Plural By The First Person Plural
13. Commence Auditory Reception The Announcing Cherubs Vocalize
14. Kris Kringle Will Be Arriving In The City In The Not Too Distant Future
15. Bipedal Traveling Through An Amazing Acreage During The Period Between December 21st And March 21st In The Northern Hemisphere
16. Its Arrival Occurred At Twelve O'Clock During A Clement Nocturnal Period
17. Exclamatory Remark Concerning A Diminutive Municipality In Judea Southwest Of Jerusalem



The Whapmagoostui First Nation



*wishes to extend a warm,
sincere, heartfelt
and safe Christmas
to all First Nations.*

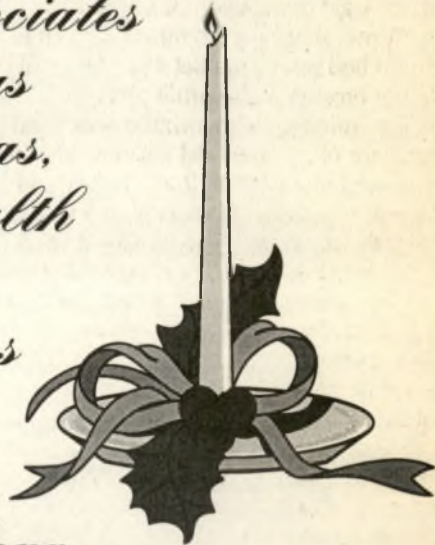
*May the Creator
watch over you
and guide you.*

Have a prosperous New Year!



*From the Executive Director and
Staff of the Cree Board of Health
& Social Services of James Bay.*

*We wish all our clients
and associates
a Joyous
Christmas,
good health
and
happiness
in
the
New Year.*



*Another Year of the
Long Cold Severing Nights*

*It's that time of the Year
Where we Gather to Share
the Warmth Amongst Our Families
Watching Our Children dig into their
Stockings
on this Special Day
Christmas*

*We the Staff of Mandow Inn
We would like to wish you a Merry Christmas
and
Best Wishes for the New Year.*

*Mandow Inn
Stanley Gilpin
Eastmain, Quebec*

Servinor

*would like
to wish a Merry Christmas
to all our customers.*

*Thank you for your patronage
and support in 1996*

*Servinor
A Proud Cree Company*



Downsizing Christmas

The recent announcement that Donner and Blitzen have decided to take the early reindeer retirement package has triggered a good deal of concern about whether they will be replaced, and about other restructuring decisions at the North Pole.

Streamlining is due to the North Pole's loss of dominance of the season's gift distribution business.

Home shopping channels and mail order catalogues have diminished Santa's market share. He could not sit idly by and permit further erosion of the profit picture.

The reindeer downsizing was made possible through the purchase of a late model Japanese sled for the CEO's annual trip. Improved productivity from Dasher and Dancer, who summered at the Harvard Business School, is anticipated. Reduction in reindeer will also lessen airborne environmental emissions for which the North Pole has received unfavorable press.

I am pleased to inform you that Rudolph's role will not be disturbed. Tradition still counts for something at the North Pole. Management denies, in the strongest possible language, the earlier leak that Rudolph's nose got that way, not from the cold, but from substance abuse. Calling Rudolph "a lush who was into the sauce and never did pull his share of the load" was an unfortunate comment, made by one of Santa's helpers and taken out of context at a time of year when he is known to be under executive stress.

As a further restructuring, today's global challenges require the North Pole to continue to look for better, more competitive steps. Effective immediately, the following economy measures are to take place in the "Twelve Days of Christmas" subsidiary:

The partridge will be retained, but the pear tree never turned out to be the cash crop forecasted. It will be replaced by a plastic hanging plant, providing considerable savings in maintenance;

The two turtle doves represent a redundancy that is simply not cost effective. In addition, their romance during working hours could not be condoned. The positions are therefore eliminated;

The three French hens will remain intact. After all, everyone loves the French;

The four calling birds were replaced by an automated voice mail system, with a call waiting option. An analysis is underway to determine who the birds have been calling, how often and how long they've talked;

The five golden rings have been put on hold by the Board of Directors. Maintaining a portfolio based on one commodity could have negative implications for institutional investors.

Diversification into other precious metals as well as a mix of T-Bills and high technology stocks appear to be in order;

The six geese-a-laying constitutes a luxury which can no longer be afforded. It has long been felt that the production rate of one egg per goose per day is an example of the decline in productivity. Three geese will be let go, and an upgrading in the selection procedure by personnel will assure management that from now on every goose it gets will be a good one;

The seven swans-a-swimming is obviously a number chosen in better times. The function is primarily decorative. Mechanical swans are on order. The current swans will be retrained to learn some new strokes and therefore enhance their outplacement;

As you know, the eight maids-a-milking concept has been under heavy scrutiny by the EEOC. A male/female balance in the workforce is being sought. The more militant maids consider this a dead-end job with no upward mobility. Automation of the process may permit the maids to try a-mending, a-mentoring or a-mulching;



Nine ladies dancing has always been an odd number. This function will be phased out as these individuals grow older and can no longer do the steps;

Ten Lords-a-leaping is overkill. The high cost of Lords plus the expense of international air travel prompted the Compensation Committee to suggest replacing this group with ten out-of-work Members of Parliament. While leaping ability may be somewhat sacrificed, the savings are significant because we expect an oversupply of unemployed Members of Parliament this year;

Eleven pipers piping and twelve drummers drumming is a simple case of the band getting too big. A substitution with a string quartet, a cutback on new music and no uniforms will produce savings which will drop right down to the bottom line;

We can expect a substantial reduction in assorted people, fowl, animals and other expenses. Though incomplete, studies indicate that stretching deliveries over twelve days is inefficient. If we can drop ship in one day, service levels will be improved.

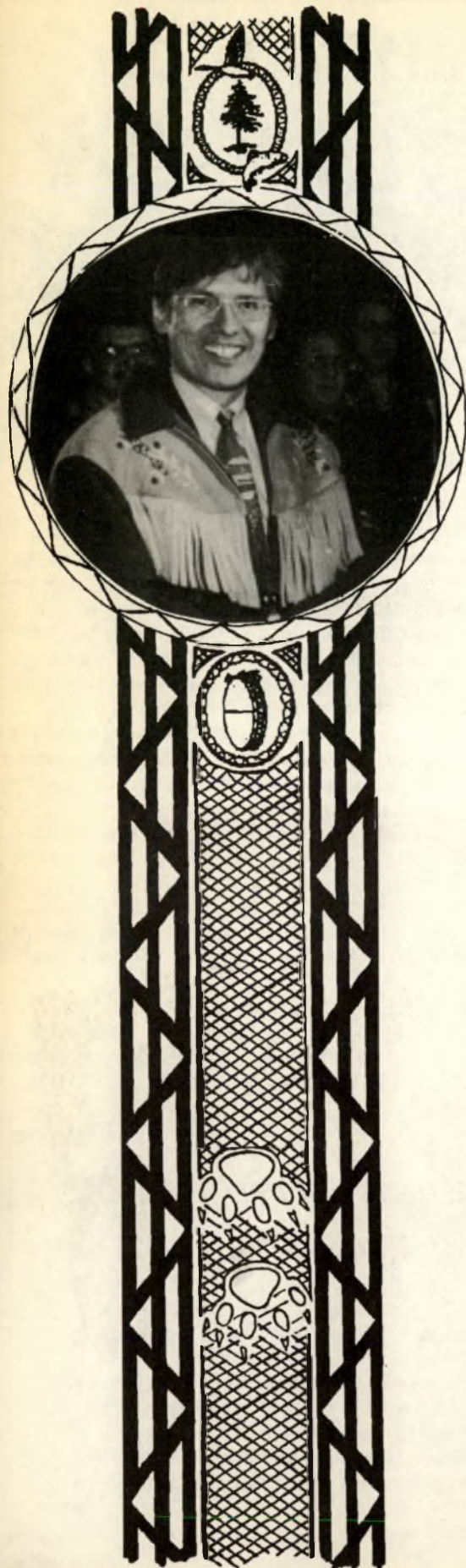
Regarding the lawsuit filed by the attorney's association seeking expansion to include the legal profession ("thirteen lawyers-a-suing") action is pending.

Lastly, it is not beyond consideration that deeper cuts may be necessary in the future to stay competitive. Should that happen, the Board will request management to scrutinize the Snow White Division to see if seven dwarfs is the right number.

Happy Holidays!

Answers: Government Christmas Carol Quiz

Answers: 1. O Come All Ye Faithful, 2. Deck The Halls, 3. The Little Drummer Boy, 4. I'm Dreaming Of A White Christmas, 5. Silent Night, 6. We Three Kings, 7. The First Noel, 8. Silver Bells, 9. God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen, 10. Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer, 11. Let It Snow, 12. We Wish You A Merry Christmas, 13. Hark! The Herald Angels Sing, 14. Santa Claus Is Coming To Town, 15. Walking In A Winter Wonderland, 16. It Came Upon A Midnight Clear, 17. O Little Town Of Bethlehem



*Merry Christmas to all the members of
the James Bay Cree First Nations*

**The Christmas season is always one to be cherished .
It is a holiday when families come together and a
time of renewing old friendships. It is a time of
remembering the past and the Elders who were able
to ensure our health and safety.**

**It is a time for children. The children are our future
and it is only right that they begin their lives with the
confidence that only the love of a family can provide.**

**I wish that your holidays see you and your family
healthy, happy and prosperous.**



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Grand Council of the Crees (of Québec)
Grand Conseil des Cris (du Québec)

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CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY
ADMINISTRATION REGIONALE CRIE



Cree youth CD launched

6 IN THE MORNING AND TIRED OF GEORGE JONES?

William Nicholls

The Cree Nation Youth Council has a lot of firsts. For example they were the first to have Elders as part of their council as well as hosting the First Indigenous Youth Conference. Now they're doing it again; the first *James Bay Cree Youth Compilation Album* is out!

Nine artists from four communities bring you fifteen songs guaranteed to make you proud. The James Bay has always had great musicians and it's nice to know that will continue. The talent that you will hear

is by no means raw. It is a finely tuned exposition of dedication, achievement and persistence that made all this possible.

It all started back in the turbulent years of '89 or '90 that Bertie Wapachee and Lloyd Cheechoo got together to do a demo. Then Bertie had a dream... an album of all the Cree he had listened to, at that time to bring all those musicians together... the late Morley Loon, Rodger House to name a couple of the Cree that inspired that dream. But he didn't have the resources to carry out such a project.

Four years later he presented the idea to the Cree Nation Youth Council in 1995. By this

time the idea was taken over by the Nemaska Youth Council and the Nemaska First Nation Youth Department. Bertie's idea was contagious and people built on it. Too many to name says Bertie but he adds, "Buy the album, we thank everyone on it."

The album

encompasses many forms but all of them dynamic parts of Cree life. The songs will bring back memories, both of songs played around the community and a few of them are cover songs for the jaded.

Not that there's anything wrong with being jaded but treat yourself to something new, something Cree and something you can be proud of... Buy the *James Bay Cree Youth Compilation Album* today.

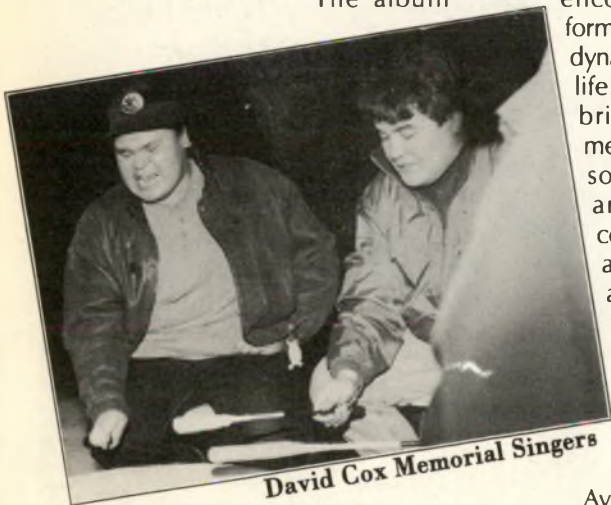
Available at fine stores in the communities, in Chibougamau at Musicom and Val d'Or at Polyson.



Bertie Wapachee, G.C. Matthew Coon Come and producer Randall Prescott



Duet with Francine Weistche and Joshua Iserhoff



David Cox Memorial Singers



Miigwin of Nemaska

LES MINES INMET

The Troilus Project is a division of Inmet Mining Corporation, a Canadian mining company engaged in exploration, development and processing of base and precious metals internationally.

The Troilus Project is situated 175 Km north of Chibougamau and is accessible by way of the Route du Nord. The employees will work on a 4-3 or 7-7 shift schedule and will be provided with room and board at its first-class camp on site. The company is presently searching for candidates to fill the following positions at its Troilus Project, an open-pit gold mining operation.

MOBILE EQUIPMENT MECHANICS

The Mobile Equipment Mechanics maintain and repair the mine equipment such as off-road trucks, excavators, hydraulic drills, dozers, backhoes and loaders, etc.

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS:

- Some secondary school is required;
- Completion of a three (3) year mechanical college program is an asset;
- A combination of work experience in the trade, and some high school, college or industry courses in heavy equipment repair may compensate for mechanical college program,
- Basic knowledge of French or English

MAIN DUTIES:

The incumbents will perform some or all of the following duties:

- Maintain and repair mobile mining equipment to assure maximum performance and inspect equipment to detect faults and malfunctions;
- Diagnose faults or malfunctions;
- Adjust equipment and repair or replace defective parts, components or systems, using hand and power tools;
- Test repaired equipment for proper performance and to ensure that work meets manufacturer's specifications;
- Clean, lubricate and perform other routine maintenance work on equipment;
- Perform necessary welding duties;
- Perform other related duties.

THE CONDITIONS:

Inmet Mining Corporation (Troilus Project) offers competitive wages and a comprehensive benefits package. These positions are open to men and women. Inmet Mining Corporation promotes Cree hiring. Interested candidates are asked to forward their résumé, at the latest January 17, 1997.

Corporation Minière Inmet

TROILUS PROJECT

P.O. Box 8700

Chibougamau (Quebec)

G8P 3A9

ATTENTION: Human Resources Manager

Reference (Position Title): Mobile Equipment Mechanics



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support throughout the year.

Happy Holidays
to you and your family.

Place le Chaînon
Chibougamau 748-7301

TRIBUTE TO GRACIE HERODIER ORR

by Janie Pachano

In an editorial I came across in *The Nation*, Will Nicholls wrote about yin and yang, positive and negative energies, and the male and female in us all. As human beings, we are all faced with the positive and negative every day of our lives and our test is to walk in balance between them. Our goal should be to create as much positive energy around us so that we affect people in a good way. Even though we must deal with the negative that comes our way, we ourselves should try not to create any negative energies that will hurt or destroy others.

One person who created nothing but positive energy around her was the late Gracie Herodier Orr. My first vivid memory of her goes back to when I was very young. I remember hearing the adults say she was "going crazy" and she was going to die.

Those were the days before regular plane service, before vehicles, before white doctors. There was only a small hospital run by the Catholic mission on the island of Fort George at the time and Gracie was taken care of by the nuns until a bush plane arrived to take her away to the nearest hospital in Moose Factory. I remember her being carried on a make-shift stretcher down to the plane, all wrapped and tied up as if in a straight jacket.

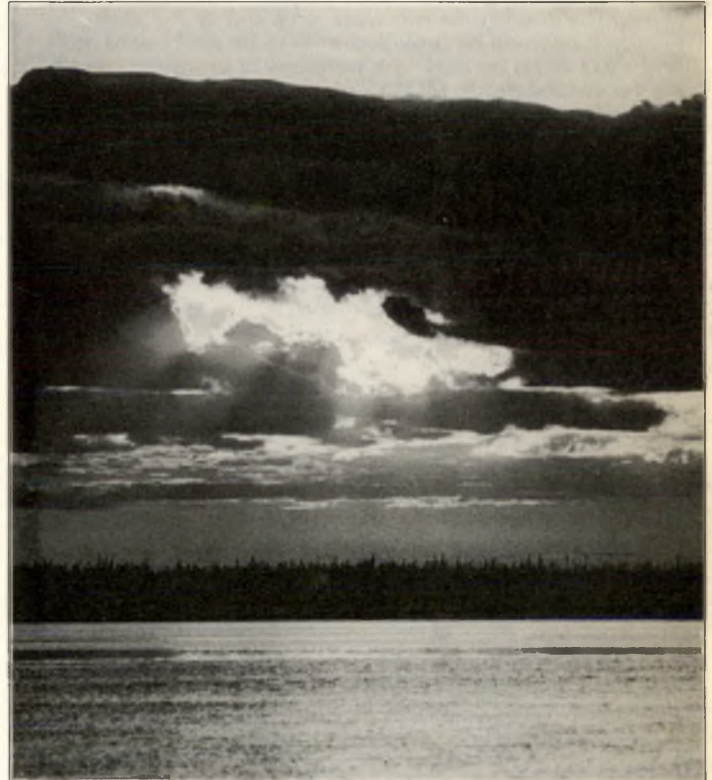
Years later she told me that she had spinal meningitis and that it had been a hard struggle to survive. She must have been physically strong and healthy otherwise to survive such a disease in those days.

Later on in her life, she overcame another life-threatening disease. She was working as a student counselor at the school in Chisasibi when she had a heart attack. She underwent open-heart surgery and returned to work shortly thereafter. However, it was another disease, cancer, that finally claimed her life almost two years ago.

Gracie certainly had her share of negative experiences during her life. Not only did she have to overcome life-threatening diseases, but also she had to face all the blame and malicious gossip when her marriage broke up. Throughout it all, she remained strong spiritually, dealing with these negatives in a positive manner.

Gracie was a gentle person; she had all of the traits that her name implies. She was gracious, graceful, kind, compassionate, thoughtful and generous. She helped the community in different ways. She did exquisite beadwork and sewed beautifully so she was often asked to make things for big events such as weddings. Working full time, she also spent endless hours working for the community.

More often than not, she did not get paid for all of the work she



had done, but she never complained. She just kept accepting the requests that kept coming in.

When she was diagnosed with cancer, I used to visit her whenever I was in Chisasibi (I was working in Mistissini at the time). It never failed to amaze me that her house seemed so normal and inviting. There was never any sense of gloom and doom, just her and her family going about as "normally" as possible.

One night, about six months before she died, I dreamt about the design on the moccasins that my daughter would wear as part of her fancy shawl pow-wow regalia. In the dream I was told that Gracie would do the beading. I did not tell her about the dream for a long time because I did not want her to feel obligated into doing the beading.

One afternoon she talked about her impending death and her concerns for her children. She talked about some dreams she had had that had made her accept death without any fear. I told her about the dream of the moccasin design. She asked me to show her the design and then she offered to do the beading. I protested but she insisted.

continued on p. 25

LES MINES INMET

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MOBILE CRANE OPERATOR

The incumbent operates a mobile crane to lift and move various pieces of equipment and materials.

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS:

- General driver's license is required;
- Some secondary school education is required, although relative work experience may compensate for formal education;
- Two to three (2-3) years experience as a mobile crane operator is required;
- Basic knowledge of French or English

MAIN DUTIES:

The Mobile Crane Operator performs some or all of the following duties:

- Conducts pre-operational checks on equipment and cleans, lubricates and refuels equipment;
- Operates truck crane commands to control raising, lowering and swinging of loads such as equipment, supplies, etc;
- Determines that loads are properly and safely rigged;
- Prepares required reports on equipment condition and tasks performed;
- May be required to participate in general labour tasks;
- Performs other related duties.

THE CONDITIONS:

Inmet Mining Corporation (Troilus Project) offers competitive wages and a comprehensive benefits package. These positions are open to men and women. Inmet Mining Corporation promotes Cree hiring. Interested candidates are asked to forward their résumé, at the latest January 17, 1997.

Corporation Minière Inmet

TROILUS PROJECT

P.O. Box 8700

Chibougamau (Quebec)

G8P 3A9

ATTENTION: Human Resources Manager

Reference (Position Title): Mobile Crane Operator

A Celebration of the Daily Lives
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"Dreams are very powerful," she said. "You have to do what they tell you to do and I will do what your dream showed you. All I ask is that you cut out the moosehide because I am too weak to do that now."

After the beading was done, I took my daughter over to thank Gracie personally and to pay Gracie for her time. Gracie was overwhelmed. "I didn't expect this," she cried. "Hardly anybody pays me for work I do." Although I already knew this, it was the only time she mentioned being asked to make things without any payment in return.

When Gracie told me that she was no longer able to digest food other than fish and spruce grouse or ptarmigan, I tried to find these for her and I would take them over to her whenever I was in town. Each time, she would cry a little and thank me over and over again for being so kind. I was trying to show my appreciation for all the kind things she had done for me, but she was not used to people showing their thanks for the many, many little and big things she had done for them. It was sad.

My daughter wore her moccasins for the first time nine months after Gracie died. She had told Gracie that the first dance would be for her and Gracie had cried over that. A few days before she died, she told me that she had been so touched that she could not say anything; she could only offer my daughter a big hug and kiss. She thought it was such an honour to have the first dance dedicated to

her and to thank my daughter for being so kind. It was Gracie who had been so kind to us and who had honoured us with her involvement in our lives.

On the night of her death, I was in Mississauga. I was exhausted from endless hours of working and traveling and I had gone to bed around 8:30 p.m. I had a very vivid dream about crossing over into the spirit world. A huge crowd of Cree youth were milling around near the border between the spirit and the physical worlds. At the border stood a spirit in a cloak and hood, like a sentry. As I crossed over, I noticed that the colours in the spirit world were so bright and vibrant. When I returned to the physical world, I was clutching something in my fists and I released this "food" into the crowd of young Crees. I made this trip back and forth three times. On the third trip I knew I could not go back again; otherwise, I would not be able to return to the physical world. I woke up and I noted the time. I later found out it was the exact time that Gracie had died.

It was late fall when she died. I attended the funeral and after the coffin had been lowered into the ground, a huge rainbow appeared in the east even though it was a miserably cold day and no rain had fallen anywhere that day. The rainbow signified to me the way she had lived her life, casting beautiful positive energies wherever she went and making this world bright and colourful for others. She was a true master of balancing yin and yang, walking in balance throughout her life. I am honoured to have known her.

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I would like to make a special welcome to world and to the family, my nephew Austin Jesse Chlqaqaabenu Snowboy, He was born on October 16, 1996 in Val d'Or, weighing 9 lbs., 12 oz. And my big thanx to my sister Annie for bringing precious bundle of joy into this world. I wish you both all the joy and happiness in the years to come and I want then to know that I love them both so much and I always will. With love, your sister and auntie Louise.

CLASSIFIEDS

Gladys and Kenneth welcomed into this world a little girl Shannon Gracie Maryanne on November 19. We wish you all the best and take care of the little one. Love, Herodier and Langdon family and from Kayla.

It's a girl! She's finally here, my first niece and her name is Aliyah Ashley. Born in Timmins, Ont. on November 4th 1996, 8:23 a.m., weighing a healthy 8 lbs., 8 oz. Proud parents are Teri Gunner and Derek Diamond. Congratulations on your first born. Can't wait to kiss those tiny sweet cheeks. See you soon. Love, your big sis, Charlene and Dad in Hamilton, Ontario. Joni sends her best wishes, hugs and kisses from the nephews in Waskaganish.

101-BIRTHDAYS

I would like to wish a happy belated birthday to my tall uncle who is also my godfather, Simeon Pet. Jr. on November 2, 1996. And also another birthday wish going out to my aunt Marilyn Pet. on

November 12, 1996. Hugs and kisses, your niece that likes to eat a lot, Alysia Petawabano. Luv ya!

Birthday greetings going out to a very special girl, our very own granddaughter Tiffany Charles whose birthday is on December 6, 1996. You have brought us a lot of love and joy into our lives since you were born. Joomshoon and I were there when you took your first steps, we were so excited. And now

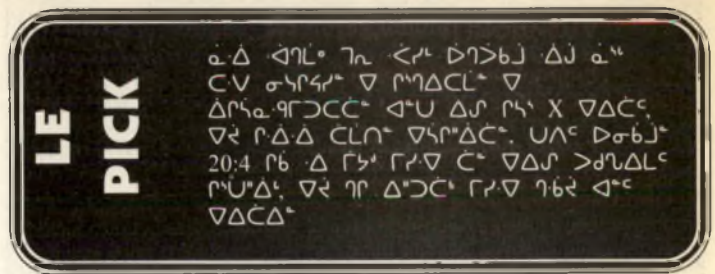
you're going to be 11 years old. Please stay young and enjoy your youth, don't grow up too fast. We thank God for all our grandchildren, if we had known grandchildren were so much fun, we would have had them first. All our love, Kookum (Maggie) Joomshoon (Simeon), Waswanipi.

I would like to wish my son Adrian a happy 1st birthday. This brings a double wish for you because Christmas brings your birthday too. So hope twice the joy and twice the fun make this special time a happy one. Love, mommy.



We would like to wish a happy birthday to Elaine Moses on November 22, 1996. From friend always, Louise Hester, Demilyn Hester Wadden. (Wask.)

I would like to wish happy 9th birthday to my sweet and wonder-



ful niece Katrina Cecly Emily Gilpin on November 25, 1996. I wish you all the happiness on your special day and I hope you wishes and dreams come true. For that to happen is to be a good girl fro the rest of the month. Maybe Santa will make your wishes and reams come true. True happy birthday and many more years to come. With love, your aunt Louise. P.S. Remember to go to bed early cause he knows when you've been good or bad so be a good girl in order to get your wishes and reams to come true and the same goes to Tracy Lucie Carmen Sam on her birthday was on November 11, 1996.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my wonderful grandfather George House Sr. I wish you all the best on your special day. Happy birthday and many more wonderful years coming your way and I would like to thank you for all the happy memories you share with me each time I see you and you always say to me, why don't you come more often. I'll try to visit you every day from now on, I promise!! And I'll never forget your tender loving

care for us, your grandchildren. I will always love you. With love from my heart, your granddaughter.

I would like to send a very special belated birthday greeting to our daughter, Sage Nathalie Erin Monture of Moosonee, who celebrated her 1st birthday on November the 30th. Happy birthday! We love you! Love, mommy and Daddy. xoxoxoxo

Happy fourth birthday to our son Christopher Saganash on December 13. Hope you have lots of fun on your special day. With lots of love, hugs and kisses. From mom and Dee. Waswanipi. XXXXXXXX

I would like to wish a happy 13th birthday to our best friend, Erika Rupert on December 7, 1996. Hope you have fun on your birthday. P.S. Don't party too much!!! From our best friends in Chisasibi, Annie and Cindy.

I would like to wish a happy belated birthday to my one and only son Danny Polson. I miss you a lot son. I regret that me and mommy didn't work out. I just wish we could



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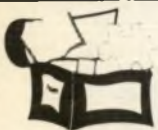
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
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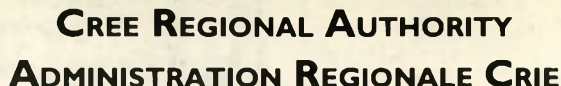
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COMPETITION NUMBER: NEM-429

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The successful candidate should have a College Diploma in a relevant field (Business, Commerce, Accounting) and five (5) years pertinent work experience in an accounting environment and strong computer skills (Spreadsheet and Database). A willingness to relocate in a Northern Cree community is a condition of employment.

Salary for the above position shall be commensurate with qualifications and experience. The GCCEE/CRA offers a benefit package which includes Group Insurance and Pension Plan.

LOCATION OF WORK: To be determined

COMPETITION NUMBER: NEM-430

CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT:

To be determined

The successful candidate develops new programs to better serve the needs of the Cree Nation and provides assistance to local and regional labour market planning exercises. The person in this position works in collaboration with various entities, such as the Cree School Board, local Economic Development Officers and Community Director of Operations.

Salary for the above position shall be commensurate with qualifications and experience. The GCCEE/CRA offers a benefit package which includes Group Insurance and Pension Plan.

Selection Committee, Cree Regional Authority, 2 Lakeshore Road, Nemaska, Quebec, J0Y 3B0
Telephone: (819) 673-2600 Fax: (819) 673-2606

CLASSIFIEDS

We would like to wish a happy birthday to Matthew Wapachee on November 25, 96 and Jane Wapachee on November 30, 96 and Titus Iserhoff on November 27, 96 and best wishes to all and we love you all. From Alfred, Lisa and Sharriann.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my cute nephew Romeo Paul Shecapio on December 8, 1996. Take care of yourself and especially when you play hockey. And take care of that cute face. Love always, your aunt who bugs you in school all the time, Theresa W.

Birthday greetings going out to Francine Shecapio on November 9, my sis Sally Coon on November 11. Nancy, party on November 12. Gabriel SB, Kitty M. and Betsy S. on November 17 and Cita Bugden on November 23. Happy birthday and many more to come. In friendship, Mona and Adrian. Ouje-Bougoumou.

I would like to wish a happy 5th birthday to my sweet adorable brother Naaman Moar on October 27, 1996 from Nemaska. Hope your day will be as special as you are. I hope we can afford to buy a Ninja Turtle cake like you want. Love always, your sister Natacha.

I want to wish a happy first birthday to our son Rayn Rusty Sam on November 28, 1996 and my mother Elizabeth Snowboy on November 17, 1996 and Lillian Sam on November 18, 1996. From the Sam

Belated birthday wishes to two fine and handsome young men who turned 14 years old on October 6, 1996. Happy birthday to you twins Benjamin and Patrick Loon. Keep making us proud by playing hockey. I know that someday that you'll be a success and play with the pros when you get older eh? Keep it up boys. From your #1 fan. Much love to you both. Your aunt, Elizabeth Trapper.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my brothers Delon and Ryan Linklater and also to my grandpa Joe Blackned on November 29, 1996. From Amanda.

We would like to wish our boys Delon and Ryan a happy birthday and many more to come! We love you guys! Love always, from mom, dad and your sisters.

Happy birthday to my brother Willie Trapper on November 9, 1996 and his daughter Felicia Shecapio on November 10, 1996. Happy birthday to you both and many more to come. Love, sis and aunt Elizabeth Trapper.

Happy birthday to my very special and beautiful nieces Cetianna Mapachee who turned 10 years old and Carol Ann Mapachee who turned 6 years old on November 7, 1996. Happy birthday and I love you both oh so much!! Auntie Elizabeth Trapper.

Those terrible twos are coming soon to Henri Jo who will be celebrating his second birthday on December 24. We love you so much and we are very lucky to have you as a grandson and nephew. Hugs and kisses from Eva, Stephanie and Frances.

Belated seventh birthday wish going out to a special girl Nikki on November 9 and also a happy birthday to Sonia on December 2 and Mary on December 25. We love you so much!!! Hope you have a wonderful day!! Love, Eva, Stephanie and Frances.

Birthday wishes to two very special people in my life. To my first born daughter Melissa who will turn 17 on December 2 and to my husband Tommy on December 12. May your days be special as you are



G.C.C.O.

**Condition of Employment:
TO BE DETERMINED**

The Coordinator shall assist in the implementation of the "Agreement Respecting Human Resource Development for the Cree Nation of Eeyou Estchee", he/she will administer and monitor various programs designed to develop and support the labour market resources in the Cree territory, seek additional sources of funding, and provide various employment services such as assistance to workers and to employers.

Reporting to the Director of Community Services the Coordinator supervises the Department and oversees programs and services being delivered to the Cree Communities.

He/she is responsible to ensure that all governmental reporting responsibilities are complied with and shall work closely with federal and provincial authorities, Cree representatives and Cree entities in order to achieve a coordinated approach to Cree Labour and Manpower Programs.

Salary for the above position shall be commensurate with qualifications and experience. The GCCQ/CRA offers a benefit package which includes Group Insurance and Pension Plan.

If you are interested and meet the requirements for this position, please forward your resume, mentioning the competition number NEM-428, by January 10, 1997 to:

**Selection Committee
Cree Regional Authority
2 Lakeshore Road
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J0Y 3B0**

Tel: (819) 673-2600
Fax: (819) 673-2606

CLASSIFIEDS

both to me. Love, Rosie.

I would like to wish a happy 2nd birthday to my niece Brit-tany BW on November 13, 1996. Happy birthday and many more to come. From Valerina and Willie.

Happy 5th birthday to my sweet girl Ariel Emma Coon on November 20, 1996. We love you and a little prayer for you. Dear Jesus, help her to grow up to be the kind of person they will be proud of. May they love even when I sometimes do things that are wrong. Keep and watch over me all the days of my life. When I grow older may I always do what is right so my parents will be proud of me. In Jesus name I pray, amen. God bless you on your birthday. Love and prayers, Mary Loon and Matthew Loon.

Birthday greetings going out to Katrina Gilpin. She will be celebrating her birthday on November 25. Hope your birthday is all that you wish for. I hope school is going good too. Love and kisses from your auntie Dina.

We would like to wish a happy birthday to Nathan M Ice-bound on November 21, 1996. I won't be there for your birthday, I'll be in Amos. But on November 22 I'll be home with U and mom. Remember that I will always love you Nathan. Same goes to you too Kitty. Love always, Michel.

We would like to say happy belated birthday to our dad, Daniel Atsynia on November 12, 1996. We hope you're in town next year on your birthday. We love you too! From all of us.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to Mistissini's very own "Hot Stuff", miss Nancy Loon on October 27. Happy 40th birthday. Now, you're over the hill. Just kidding!!! I mean happy 16th birthday and many more to come!!!!

We wanna wish a happy birthday to Brian on December 14, 1996. Hope this birthday will be a wonderful one for a uncle who's such a lot of fun! From your nieces, Kendra, Kyria and your little nephew Karlos. xoxoxoxo.

Sending bingo birthday greetings to the best bingo callers in Chisasibi. Mary on Decem-

ber 6th and Valerie on December 10th. Hope Santa will give you what you want. Most brand new bingo balls. From the #1 bingo player who never wins.

December 14th, yippee! Hurray! It's our daddy's birthday! On your birthday daddy, you deserve a day off. From us, of course, (You're not getting it) So just sit back, relax. In return we will take care of you today! Thanks for all you are and all you do, daddy! We love you much! Brendan and Brett. xoxoxoxoxo.

Karl Sharone, happy first birthday Boysh! on December 10, 1996. It's quite a thrill to have a baby brother like you. Someone to love, hug and bug. You're very special to mommy and daddy and to us. Lots of love, your big sisters, Kendra and Kyria. xoxoxoxoxo.

I would like to say hi and happy birthday to my sweet sister Vivian Rose Coonishish who turned 9 years old on November 22. I'm so sorry I couldn't be in Mistissini for your birthday. But I hope you had a great time. I miss you and Tanya so much that I can't wait to see both of your cute faces during Christmas break. See you soon! Love always, your oldest sister (SC).

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my dad Dennis P. Coon on November 21st. You are my special friend. We love you very much daddy. From Eric and Lindsay. Mist.

Wishing a happy birthday to my husband Dennis Coon on Novem-

ber 21st and congratulations on our 3rd sobriety on November 19th. With love and prayer, Suzie.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my sister Gabriella (Boodoo) and to my loving mother Judy on November 14, 1996. Words cannot explain how much it means to me to have you guys in my life. I hope you both have the greatest birthday. I love you both so very much from the bottom of my heart. Love always, Nancy Pelchat (Chis) xoxoxoxo.

I'd like to wish a happy birthday to my brother Brian Whiskeychan. Turning 23 on December 14, 1996. You are not just a brother but you

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CLASSIFIEDS

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my friend Melinda Georgekish on October 15, 1996. Have a good time on your birthday. I miss you so much. From your friend always, Samantha in Chisasibi.

I would like to say happy belated birthday to my one and only sister Deidre Blackned in Chisasibi. Turning 15 years old on October 11. Hope you had a great day sis! I miss ya a lot! Take care and be good. I love you always. Love, sis Max. (Was)

I would like to wish a happy belated birthday to my ex girlfriend Brenda Moore on August 31. Happy 17th birthday. I just wanna let you know that I still love you and think about you with all my heart. From # 10.

Happy birthday to my sister Helen T. Wap on September 29, 1996. Happy birthday and many more to come and God bless you and keep you. From Diana Nicholas T. (Mist)

To our special daughter. We would like to wish you a happy birthday on October 6. To Emma Neeposh, always remember we love you very much and we miss you. Take care. All our love, mom and dad, George, Lillian N. Give a kiss to Adrian for us. xoxoxo. Krystal sends her love.

I would like to send birthday greetings to my boyfriend David on December 15 and to my dad Albert on December 27. Hope your days are filled with love and happiness. Love, Jody. xoxoxoxo

Happy 70th birthday going out to my husband Albert Mianscum. Love always, your wife Emma and family. xoxoxoxo

I would like to wish a happy belated birthday to my mom Elizabeth on November 11, 1996. With all my love, your daughter

Marie Jane C. Shem. xoxoxox (Chisasibi)

I would like to wish a happy belated birthday to my husband George on November 18, 1996. I love you with all my heart. Love always, your wife, Marie Jane C. xoxoxo (Chisasibi)

Happy 9th birthday to my niece Katrina Gilpin on November 25, 1996. To my newest cousin William Benjamin in Montreal, same date. He will be 10 years old. William, say hi to shivers jr. FOR ME. anyways, HOPE YOU ENJOY YOUR DAY. from Joanne IN Chisasibi OR Eastmain.

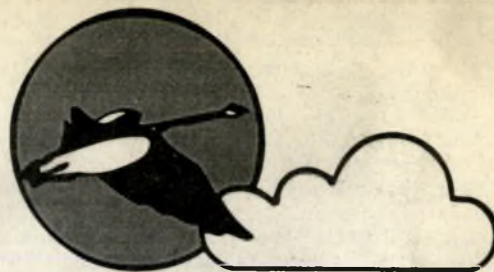
Wishing a happy belated birthday to Nadia Neacappo who turned 18 on the 14th of November. Hope you had fun on your special day. From your friend Caroline in Chisasibi.

We would like to wish a wonderful birthday to our daddy Eric Matoush on December 9. P.S. Don't go out on your birthday. Stay home and we will have a Barney party. Love always, your daughters Lynn the big boss and Rolanda small boss. Waswanipi.

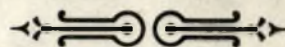
We would like to wish a special birthday to our mom Evadney O. on December 16. You mean a lot to us and we wish you all the best. Love always, your daughters, Caroline, Shirley and sons Eric, Steve, Joey. Also from your husband.

Happy birthday to a special girl on December 6. her name is Tiffany Awashish. Make a big wish cause Santa is around the corner. Have a wonderful birthday. From Shirley.

I would like to wish my big brother a happy birthday and I hope you've grown out of pushing me around. From your baby brother Brandon Voyageur.



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Merry Christmas to all
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